



Office of the Administrative
Law Judge
United States Coast Guard

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5720
14 February 2019

MuckRock News
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RE: DHS FOIA Appeal Number 2018-HQAP-00269; FOIA Request Number: 2018-HQFO-01014

Dear Ms. Best:

On December 14, 2018, I **REMANDED** this matter to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Privacy Office (PRIV) with instruction to provide my office with an updated response to your original FOIA request. See 6 C.F.R. 5.9(b). My December 14, 2018 letter concluded your request was not too broad in scope to conduct a search.

To date, I have not received any response from the Agency. Therefore, this letter constitutes final agency action, and administrative exhaustion; you are now able to appeal this matter to federal district court.

As part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. If you are requesting access to your own records (which is considered a Privacy Act request), you should know that OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may email them at ogis@nara.gov or call 1-877-684-6448.

This decision is the final action of DHS concerning DHS FOIA Appeal Number 2018-HQAP-00269; FOIA Request Number: 2018-HQFO-01014. You may seek judicial review of this decision, per 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(B) in either the United States District

Court: 1) where you reside; 2) the district where the pertinent agency is situated; or 3) in the District of Columbia.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tommy Cantrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tommy B. Cantrell
Attorney Advisor
United States Coast Guard
Department of Homeland Security

Sent via: First Class Mail and E-Mail
CC: Department of Homeland Security FOIA Officer